

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INT-05 DHA-02 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07

EUR-12 NEA-10 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03 /104 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2874

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SGEN, SHUM, SOCI

SUBJECT: PROPOSED NGO CONFERENCE ON DISCRIMINATION AGAINST  
INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS IN THE AMERICAS

REF: (A) STATE 57069; (B) GENEVA 1588

1. SUMMARY: ON MARCH 17, MISOFF DISCUSSED SUBJECT  
CONFERENCE WITH NEW YORK NGO REPRESENTATIVE, ANNABELLE  
WEINER. MRS. WEINER STATED THAT SHE WAS STRONGLY OPPOSED  
TO THE LIMITED SCOPE OF THE PROPOSED CONFERENCE, RECOUNTED  
FOR OUR OFFICER THE HISTORY OF HER DEALINGS WITH NGO  
CONFERENCE PRESIDENT BALLANTYNE ON THE SUBJECT, AND  
REQUESTED US GUIDANCE ON HOW TO BEST USE HER INFLUENCE  
TO BLOCK FOCUS ON THE AMERICAS. END SUMMARY.

2. WEINER LEARNED INFORMALLY OF PLANS FOR THE CONFERENCE  
IN THE FALL OF 1976 AND ASKED FOR NGO CONFERENCE-GENEVA  
CLARIFICATION SO THAT SHE COULD REFER TO THE CONFERENCE  
IN HER REPORT TO THE 31ST GA. WEINER WAS INFORMED THAT  
A CONFERENCE ENTITLED "DISCRIMINATION AGAINST INDIGENOUS  
PEOPLES" WAS BEING PLANNED, AND SHE SO REPORTED TO THE GA.

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3. IN EARLY FEBRUARY 1977 WEINER LEARNED OF THE RE-  
VISED TITLE LIMITING THE CONFERENCE TO THE AMERICAS.  
SHE IMMEDIATELY SENT A TELEX TO GENEVA PROTESTING" THE  
BIAS AGAINST THE AMERICAS" AND ASKING FOR AN EXPLANA-  
TION. IN RESPONSE, BALLANTYNE STRESSED AN ALLEGED  
PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL INABILITY TO DEAL WITH THE  
BROADER ISSUE AND CLAIMED THAT THE NGO CONFERENCE HAD

ALWAYS DEALT WITH PROBLEMS OF DISCRIMINATION ON A REGIONAL BASIS. BALLANTYNE ALSO IDENTIFIED THE 1977 :ONFERENCE AS ONE IN A SERIES AND EMPHASIZED THE SUB-SEQUENT MEETINGS WOULD DEAL WITH OTHER GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS.

4. ALTHOUGH BALLANTYNE AND NGO CONFERENCE-GENEVA ARE AWARE OF HER OPPOSITION TO THE SCOPE OF THE CONFERENCE, WEINER HAS NOT VOICED HER OPINION IN NEW YORK BOARD MEETINGS. SHE HAS, HOWEVER, SPOKEN INFORMALLY TO THE NEW YORK REPRESENTATIVES OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN, AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS, NONE OF WHOM TAKE THE MATTER SERIOUSLY. AS IT STANDS, WEINER WILL BE THE ONLY PARTICIPANT IN THE APRIL NGO CONFERENCE BOARD MEETING IN GENEVA PREPARED TO ARGUE FOR EXPANDING THE CONFERENCE. WEINER WAS DELIGHTED TO DISCUSS THE CONFERENCE AND ASKED FOR MISSION GUIDANCE ON HOW BEST TO USE HER INFLUENCE AT THE UPCOMING BOARD MEETING. SHE BELIEVES THAT THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LEAGUE OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES WILL SUPPORT HER POSITION AND THINKS THAT A WELL-CONSTRUCTED ARGUMENT MIGHT WIN OVER SEVERAL OTHER BOARD MEMBERS, INCLUDING THOSE MENTIONED ABOVE.

5. IF DEPARTMENT WISHES TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE FOR MRS. WEINER PLEASE FORWARD TALKING POINTS.  
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## Message Attributes

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